

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected a number of claims under 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The rejected claims have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection and therefore the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw his rejection thereof.

Independent claim 20 discloses a method for using a system of semaphores that enable distributed processing by a processor that uses a first and second program to cooperatively determine whether code or data that is stored in associated memory segments are available for use by the processor. In contrast, the cited reference (U.S. Patent 5,761,729 issued to Scales) describes validation checking in a computer system having a plurality of workstations (i.e., processors) that are connected to each other by a network (at Abstract). Accordingly, Scales is directed at multiprocessor systems that require validation checking for memory resources that are shared amongst a plurality of processors. In contrast, the invention as recited in claims 21 – 41 is directed at a single processor (included in a consumer set top box or DVD player, for example) for processing code or data in a distributed manner over a number of associated memory segments and not (as with Scales), a plurality of processors sharing a memory resource.

Therefore, the Applicant believes that Scales neither anticipates nor suggests the invention as recited in independent claims 20 or 31 that are therefore allowable. All dependent claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 20 and/or 31 and are therefore also allowable for at least the reasons stated above.

Therefore, the Applicant believes that the previously presented claims 20 – 41 are allowable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable. Should the Examiner believe that a further telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP



Michael J. Ferrazano
Reg. No. 44,105

P.O. Box 778
Berkeley, CA 94704-0778
(650) 961-8300